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# **2014 LEGISLATION AFFECTING LIBRARIES**

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### **QUESTION**

Did the General Assembly enact legislation in 2014 affecting libraries?

#### **SUMMARY**

The legislature passed several public acts in 2014 that affect state, public university, and law libraries. We briefly summarize them below. Complete summaries of these public acts are available on the Office of Legislative Research webpage.

## **ELECTRONIC BOOKS (E-BOOKS)**

PA 14-82 allows the State Library Board to create and maintain a statewide platform for distributing e-books to public library patrons. An e-book is a book published in digital form that is readable on computers or other electronic devices. Libraries allow patrons to download e-books they wish to read using different lending models, which depend on individual distributorship agreements (effective July 1, 2014).

PA 14-98, § 2(k) authorizes \$2.2 million in general obligation bonds for the State Library to create and maintain the e-book distribution platform (effective July 1, 2014).

# CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY EXPANSION AND RENOVATION

<u>PA 14-98, § 53</u> replaces, adds, and decreases bonding authorizations for Central Connecticut State University's Burritt Library expansion and renovation projects. These projects are part of the Transform CSCU 2020 project for the state's four public universities. Table 1 indicates the changes and the phases of the program to which they apply: Phase I (FY 09-FY 11), Phase II (FY 12-FY 14), and Phase III (FY 15-FY 18; extended by the act to FY 19).

Table 1: Burritt Library Expansion Bond Authorizations

Project	Phase	Prior Authorization	Authorization Under the Act	Change
Burritt Library Expansion (design/construction) (decreased by the act in	I	0	\$9,900,000	\$9,900,000
Phase III for New Engineering Building design/construction and equipment)	III	\$96,262,000	\$52,800,000	(\$43,462,000)
Burritt Library Renovation (design) (expanded by act to include addition and equipment)	III	\$11,387,000	\$16,500,000	\$5,113,000

#### LIBRARY DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTER OF REGULATORY ACTIVITY

PA 14-187, § 9 allows the State Library and the chief court administrator to receive, free of charge, printed copies of a register of regulatory activity from the secretary of the state. If received, the State Library must distribute copies to depository libraries, and the chief court administrator must distribute them to law libraries. The act does not require the secretary of state to print the register, however; she may instead produce it electronically and post it on the eRegulations System (effective upon passage).

#### STATE LIBRARY BOARD COMPOSITION

PA 14-207, § 3 allows the Supreme Court chief justice to designate anyone to serve in her place on the State Library Board, rather than limiting her to designating a judge, as required under prior law (effective July 1, 2014).

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